

THE ALBERTA SOCIAL CREDIT LEAGUE



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

**EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 1959**



**HEAD OFFICE:
9974 Jasper Avenue
EDMONTON, ALBERTA**

ALBERTA SOCIAL CREDIT LEAGUE

The Constitution and By-laws

As approved and amended by the 24th
Annual Convention, Edmonton, Alberta,
November 25th, 26th and 27th, 1958.

Effective January 1st, 1959

1. NAME

This Association shall be known as "The Alberta Social Credit League" and shall constitute the Alberta Section of the Social Credit Association of Canada.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives shall be:

(a) The study of the principles of Social Credit and their application in Alberta and Canada.

(b) To extend the knowledge of the principles of Social Credit and assist and encourage the establishment of groups and associations throughout Canada.

(c) To foster and encourage the universally recognized principles of Christianity in human relationships.

(d) To establish, in accordance with the highest traditions of the British way of life, responsible and effective democratic government in Canada, so that the people will gain the results they desire from the management of their own affairs.

(e) To oppose and expose any attempts to weaken the democratic sovereignty and the democratic institutions of the people by means of increased centralization of power.

(f) To oppose any attempt to spread or implant the seeds of racial discrimination, class hatred or religious prejudice among the citizens of the Province of Alberta.

(g) To liberate the country from the yoke of the present financial system and its enslavement of a constitutionally free people.

(h) To restore to the people through Parliament effective control over the issue of all Currency and Credit.

(i) To obtain the economic security which the vast resources of Canada can provide for her citizens.

(j) To abolish poverty and privation.

(k) To secure freedom from oppressive debt and taxation.

(l) To provide the people with an effective organization for obtaining information on matters essential to their welfare and for taking action to assert their democratic will.

3. MEMBERSHIP IN THE LEAGUE

(a) Membership, subject to Clause 1 hereinafter set out, shall be open to Canadian citizens or British subjects resident in the province who subscribe to the principles, aims and objectives of the League. Applicants for membership shall sign the prescribed application form and pay the prescribed membership fee.

- i. Residents in Alberta who are neither Canadian citizens or British subjects but who otherwise comply with the requirements of this Section 3, may apply for Associate Membership in the League. An associate member shall have all those rights, duties and privileges attaching to full membership except that:

- ii. he shall not hold any office, title or position either in the League or in any body or group within or under the League, and
- iii. he shall not vote on any matter at any meeting of the League or of any body or group within or under the League.

(b) The League shall reserve the right to cancel the membership, including Life Membership, of any member or refuse the application for membership of any person who, by his or her actions or public statements, reveals beyond all reasonable doubt that he is not in accord with the aims and objectives or is seeking to undermine the Alberta Social Credit League. In all such matters the League Officials shall have the right to act on behalf of the League, such action to be reviewed by the next following Convention (See 10 (c).)

(c) Any member joining any other political organization or running as a candidate against an officially nominated candidate shall automatically forfeit his or her membership and all rights pertaining thereto immediately.

(d) Membership in the League shall be Annual and as follows:

- i. The Regular Membership Fee shall be one dollar (\$1.) which shall include subscription to "The Busy Bee", the official organ of the League.
- ii. The Sustaining Membership Fee shall be ten dollars (\$10.) which shall include the regular membership and the benefits and privileges pertaining thereto.
- iii. Life Membership shall be awarded on the recommendation of a Constituency or a Group or the Board of Directors, who shall pay a flat fee of \$10. for a member who has passed the age of sixty-five, has held membership in the League for twenty years and for continuous service in the movement during those years.

(e) Each application, together with membership fee, shall be forwarded to the Head Office of the League and the official membership card will be mailed directly to the Group or Constituency forwarding the application unless the Head Office is otherwise instructed.

(f) All memberships shall be for a period of one year from the date the application and fee is received by Head Office.

(g) All paid-up members of the League shall be entitled to attend Constituency and Provincial meetings or Conventions and to take part in the discussions, but only accredited delegates shall be entitled to vote or move resolutions. Any League member present and in good standing, and in the case of a Constituency Officer is resident in the Constituency, is eligible for nomination and election to office.

(h) An elected representative of a Constituency shall be deemed resident of the Constituency.

(i) To qualify a member, same must be registered in the Head Office of the League at least seven (7) full days prior to a Constituency convention date.

4. GROUPS

(a) Ten or more members of the League and resident within the same Provincial Constituency may form themselves into an officially recognized Group by electing a President and Vice-President and by notifying the Head Office of the League. The President and Vice-President shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer.

(b) Groups shall make their own Rules and By-laws for the conduct of their business, provided they do not conflict with any of the provisions of this Constitution.

(c) Groups may collect, in addition to League Memberships, fees from their own members provided such fees are approved by not less than

two-thirds of the members present and voting at a duly called meeting.

(d) A Group failing to function or conform to the provisions of this Constitution shall, after proper investigation, be declared defunct and all properties, monies, records, certificates or charters in the possession of the Group before its termination shall pass into the common ownership of the League and shall be held or disposed of by the Constituency Executive on direction by the President of the League.

(e) To qualify a group, same must be organized and registered in the Head Office of the League at least thirty (30) full days prior to constituency convention date.

5. POLL DELEGATES

(a) Each poll shall be represented at the meetings of the constituency association and nominating conventions by the poll key man (or woman), poll representatives and group delegates, providing they qualify under the following clauses of this section:

(b) All key men and delegates must be members in good standing of the League.

(c) The constituency executive shall without undue delay appoint a key man (or woman) for each polling sub-division whose responsibility shall be to organize or maintain at least one group in the poll.

(d) The poll key man in consultation with the constituency executive or committee appointed for that purpose, shall appoint one poll representative for each fifty (50) names, or major portion thereof, on the voters' list in the poll in the preceding Provincial election.

(e) An additional delegate shall be eligible for every ten members of a group who are resident within the poll. Larger groups may exist covering more than one poll but representation at conventions shall be based on poll residence.

(f) In all cases where an officially recognized group has been organized within the poll they shall elect the poll key man and representatives. Where there is more than one group within the poll the constituency executive shall call an annual meeting of League members residing in the poll for the purpose of electing the representatives from the poll.

(g) All key men shall be elected or appointed annually and shall be responsible to the constituency executive for organization and membership within the poll.

6. CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION

(a) The Constituency Association shall be comprised of the accredited delegates from the Polls in the Constituency together with the Constituency Executive, one delegate from each accredited Women's Auxiliary and one delegate from each accredited Young Peoples' Branch. The Constituency Association shall have jurisdiction over all matters of general policy within the constituency.

(b) The Constituency Association shall meet in Annual Convention before the Provincial Convention. At this meeting:

- i. A President and three Vice-Presidents shall be elected and these shall continue to hold office at the pleasure of the Constituency Association, or until their successors are elected.
- ii. Each Constituency Association shall set up a permanent committee on organization, whose chairman shall be a member of its executive.
- iii. The business of the Constituency for the past year shall be reviewed and an annual report presented by the President, Secretary and Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer).

- iv. Resolutions and all other matters to be referred to the Provincial Convention shall be considered.

(c) The Constituency President and Vice-Presidents, in consultation with the M.L.A.'s (if any) connected with the Constituency, shall appoint a Secretary, a Treasurer (or a Secretary-Treasurer) and a Membership Secretary and such other officers as they may deem necessary for the proper administration of the Constituency.

(d) The Constituency President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer), the President of the Women's Auxiliaries Council and the President of the Young People's Council, together with the M.L.A.'s (if any) connected with the Constituency, the Chairman of the Organization Committee and the Membership Secretary shall comprise the Constituency Executive.

(e) The Constituency Association shall meet as often as it may be deemed convenient. Should circumstances render it necessary, the President may at his discretion, or shall upon the request of delegates of five (5) or more Polls within the Constituency, call a special meeting of the Constituency.

(f) Following the annual Constituency Convention the Secretary shall be responsible for sending a report of the Convention, together with copies of Resolutions for consideration at the Provincial Convention, to the Head Office of the League at least two weeks before the date of the Provincial Convention.

7. ZONES

(a) Zones may or may not be used in the organization of the Constituency.

(b) Where a Constituency is divided into Zones, a Zone Director may be elected by the Poll Delegates in each Zone and such Zone Directors,

with the approval of the Association, may become members of the Constituency Executive.

8. PROVINCIAL DISTRICTS

(a) For purposes of organization and representation on the Board of Directors, there shall be three Rural and two Urban Districts.

(b) Each District shall be entitled to elect one Director to the Board of Directors of the League, in the following manner: In the Rural Districts the delegates to the Annual Convention shall meet together to elect their representative at a time set aside for this purpose during the Convention. In the Urban Districts the Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Area Council.

(c) The Districts shall be as follows:

- (1) **South Rural**—comprised of the Provincial Constituencies of: Banff - Cochrane, Bow Valley-Empress, Cardston, Cypress, Gleichen, Lethbridge, Little Bow, Macleod, Medicine Hat, Okotoks - High River, Pincher Creek - Crow's Nest, Taber, Warner.
- (2) **Calgary Urban**—comprised of the Provincial Constituencies of: Calgary Bowness, Calgary Centre, Calgary Centre North, Calgary Glenmore, Calgary North East, Calgary South East, Calgary South West.
- (3) **Central Rural**—comprised of the Provincial Constituencies of: Acadia-Coronation, Alexandra, Bruce, Camrose, Clover Bar, Didsbury, Drumheller, Hand Hills, Lacombe, Leduc, Olds, Ponoka, Red Deer, Rocky Mountain House, Sedgewick, Stettler, Vegreville, Vermilion, Wainwright, Wetaskiwin, Willingdon.
- (4) **Edmonton Urban**—comprised of the Provincial Constituencies of: Edmonton Centre, Edmonton North, Edmonton North East, Edmonton North West, Edmonton Norwood, Jasper West, Strathcona Centre, Strathcona East, Strathcona West.

- (5) **North Rural** — comprised of the Provincial Constituencies of: Athabasca, Bonnyville, Dunvegan, Edson, Grande Prairie, Grouard, Lac La Biche, Lac Ste. Anne, Peace River, Pembina, Redwater, St. Albert, St. Paul, Spirit River, Stony Plain.

(d) 1. In the Urban Districts of Calgary and Edmonton there shall be an Area Council which shall be responsible for the co-ordination of all Social Credit activities that concern and are of interest to the area as a whole, such as provincial conventions, large meetings or rallies. The Council shall endeavour to stimulate co-operation between the constituencies and encourage them to build and maintain an active organization at all times.

2. The Area Council shall hold an Annual Meeting at which time they shall elect a President, a 1st Vice-President, a 2nd Vice-President and their Urban Director to the Provincial Board. These officers shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer and they together shall comprise the Area Council Executive. The Secretary shall be responsible to send to Head Office a report after each annual meeting.

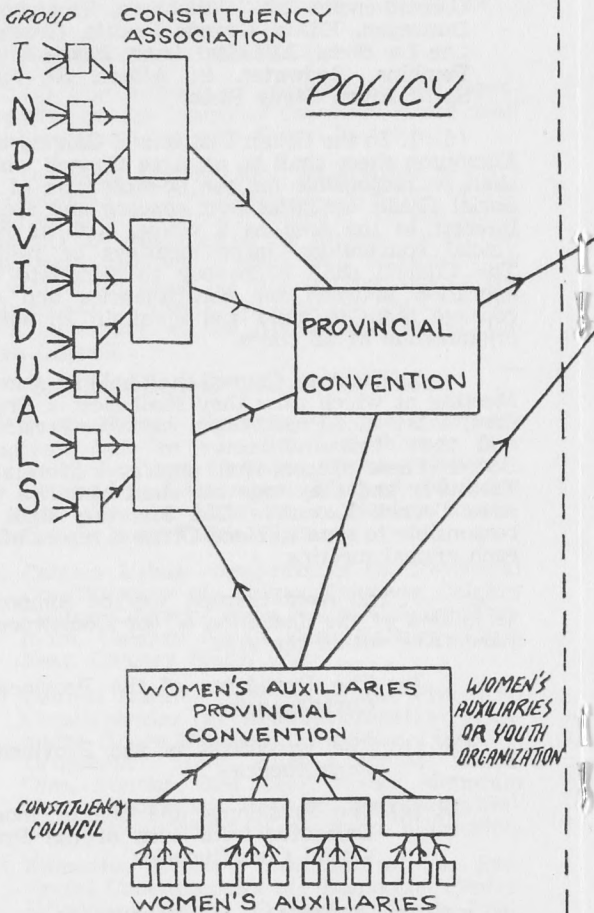
3. The Area Council may be composed as follows at the discretion of the Constituency Executives within the area:

- (a) The Presidents of the Provincial Constituencies
- OR (b) The Executives of the Provincial Constituencies
- OR (c) The Presidents and one or more Delegates from each of the Provincial Constituencies.

9. THE PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

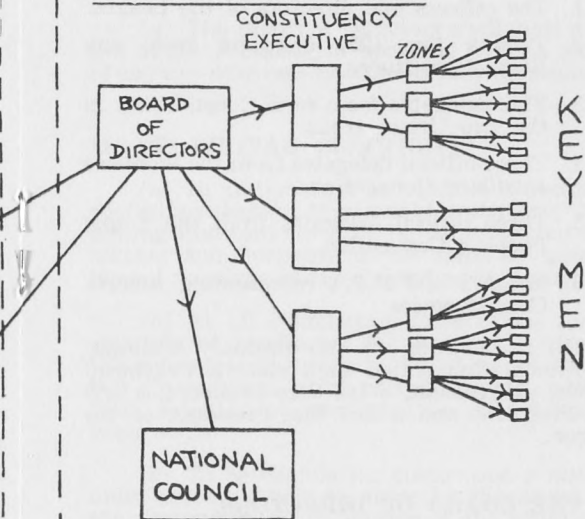
(a) The Provincial Convention shall be held annually and shall be open to all League mem-

DEMAND



RESULTS

ADMINISTRATION



Board of Directors
 Provincial Leader
 President
 1st Vice-President
 2nd Vice-President
 3rd Vice-President

Elected by
 Provincial
 Convention

Representative of
 Women's Auxiliaries
 Representative of
 Youth Organization

Elected by their
 Respective
 Conventions

Secretary-Treasurer
 Representative on
 National Council
 Administrator,
 Organizers, etc.

Appointed by
 Board of Directors
 and may be from
 among their own
 number

bers in good standing. Voting delegates shall include the following:

1. The officers and directors of the League.
2. Twenty - five (25) delegates from any Rural Constituency.
3. Five delegates from each Constituency in the two Urban areas.
4. Three official delegates from the Women's Auxiliary Convention.
5. Three official delegates from the Young People's Convention.
6. M.L.A.'s and M.P.'s representing Alberta Constituencies.

(b) In addition to the ordinary business, the Annual Convention shall elect a Provincial Leader, a President, a 1st Vice-President, a 2nd Vice-President and a 3rd Vice-President of the League.

10. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(a) The Board of Directors of the League shall be the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Provincial Leader, one Director for each Provincial District, one representative from the Women's Auxiliaries and one representative from the Young People's Organization, with power to add to their number from time to time as, in their discretion, they may deem necessary. Directors shall appoint the League's representative to the National Council.

(b) The Board of Directors shall appoint a Secretary - Treasurer and such other officials which, at their discretion, they consider necessary for the proper conduct of the League's affairs.

(c) The Board of Directors shall be responsible to act in accordance with the decisions of the Provincial Convention, but shall have full

authority to deal with all matters affecting the welfare of the League which may arise during the year.

(d) The Board of Directors shall meet at the call of the President or upon the written request of any two directors as often as may be necessary.

11. PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

(a) In all instances in which it is decided to contest an election, Provincial Constituency Nominating Conventions shall be called in the same manner and comprised of the same delegates as annual meetings of the Constituency Association.

(b) At all Nominating Conventions for the selection of candidates for Provincial Elections the delegates shall vote by ballot as set forth in this Constitution 13(c) and shall vote until the final selection of candidate or candidates has been made.

(c) To be eligible for nomination a nominee must agree publicly to abide by the decision of the convention in the matter of the selection of a candidate.

(d) Any nominee refusing to comply with the foregoing clause 11(c) shall automatically be disqualified as a nominee.

12. FEDERAL COUNCIL & CONVENTIONS

(a) A Federal Constituency Convention shall be held annually and shall be comprised of all delegates eligible to attend a Provincial Constituency Convention who are resident in the Federal Constituency.

(b) The annual Convention shall elect a President and two Vice-Presidents who, in consultation with the Social Credit M.P. (if any) shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer or Sec-

retary-Treasurer and such other officers as they may deem necessary for the proper administration of the Constituency, who together shall form the Constituency Executive.

(c) The Federal Constituency Council shall include the Presidents of the Provincial Constituencies, the major parts of which are included in the Federal Constituency, and one of the Vice-Presidents of each of the Provincial Constituencies, the minor parts of which are included in the Federal Constituency, provided that they reside in the Federal Constituency, together with the M.P. and M.L.A.'s, the major portion of whose Constituencies lie within the Federal Constituency.

(d) In all instances in which it is decided to contest an election, Federal Constituency Nominating Conventions shall be called in the same manner and comprised of the same delegates as Annual Conventions of the Constituency.

(e) At all Nominating Conventions for the selection of candidates for Federal Elections, the delegates shall vote by ballot as set forth in this Constitution 13(c) and shall vote until final selection of a candidate has been made.

13. GENERAL REGULATIONS

(a) Officials of all units of the League when not re-elected shall continue to carry out their respective duties until their successors take over.

(b) Each retiring official shall be responsible for handing over to his successor any records, correspondence or information properly belonging to the office which he is relinquishing.

(c) Throughout the entire organization of the League all voting on the election of officials or candidates for public office shall be carried out by ballot. (Note) No votes shall be cast except by a delegate actually present at the proceedings. There shall be no voting by proxy.

(d) All constituency conventions shall be called by giving two weeks notice in writing to the officials of the organized units within the Constituency, unless permission for a shorter notice has been obtained from Head Office.

(e) The Head Office of the League shall not transfer the membership of a member from one group to another without his or her written consent.

(f) Membership lists are confidential, for the use of executives only, must not be duplicated and are only available upon request and with the authority of the presiding officer, and then only the list of members over which he or she presides. That is, a Group President may only receive a list of the Group: the Provincial Constituency President may only receive the list of the members of the Constituency, the Federal Constituency President may receive the lists of that part of the Provincial Constituencies which are within the federal boundaries. The M.L.A. and M.P. may receive the list of the Constituency which they represent.

(g) The Constitution of the Alberta Social Credit League can only be amended at a Provincial Convention and then only by a two-thirds supporting vote of the delegates present.

14. WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES

(a) Six or more women members of the League may form themselves into a Women's Auxiliary by payment of an additional membership fee of 25c per member, which shall be remitted to the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer of Auxiliaries.

(b) Membership shall be confined to an Auxiliary situated in the Provincial Constituency in which the prospective member resides.

(c) In single member constituencies where it is not convenient for an Auxiliary meeting to be held apart from the Group meeting, the

women members of any properly organized Group may, by paying the Auxiliary fee of 25c, become eligible to carry on the work of an Auxiliary within their own Group and shall be entitled to all the privileges of a separately organized Auxiliary.

(d) Each Auxiliary shall elect a President and one Vice-President at a properly convened meeting of which adequate notice has been sent to its members, and these officials shall hold office at the pleasure of members of the Auxiliary.

(e) The President and Vice-President shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer, or a Secretary and Treasurer, and these officials shall constitute the Auxiliary Executive.

(f) Every such Auxiliary shall be entitled to send one representative to the Constituency Association.

(g) In any Rural Constituency and in the Urban Areas the Auxiliary Presidents and Vice-Presidents or an official delegate substituting for either or both shall constitute the Constituency Council of Women's Auxiliaries, and shall meet when necessary to deal with matters affecting the activities of Auxiliaries within the Constituency.

(h) The said Councils shall elect from their number a President and Vice-President, who shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer, or Secretary and Treasurer, and they shall hold office at the pleasure of the members of the Council.

(i) The Provincial Convention of Women's Auxiliaries shall be held in the same place, and immediately prior to, the Provincial Convention of the League.

(j) The delegates to the Provincial Convention of the Women's Auxiliaries shall be as follows: two delegates for the first six members of an Auxiliary and one delegate for each additional ten members, and two delegates from each Constituency Council.

(k) Only accredited delegates to the Provincial Convention shall be entitled to vote and to move resolutions.

(l) In addition to the ordinary business, the Annual Convention shall elect a President and two Vice-Presidents, who shall attend the Provincial Convention of the League as delegates. The immediate past President shall be considered as a member of the Executive and entitled to all the privileges thereto.

(m) In the election of the Vice-Presidents, the 1st Vice-President shall be elected from the other half of the Province than that represented by the President. The 2nd Vice-President shall be elected from the same section as the President.

(n) The President and Vice-Presidents and the immediate past President of the Provincial Convention of Women's Auxiliaries, in consultation with the President of the League, shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer, and these five shall constitute the Provincial Executive of the Women's Auxiliaries. The Executive may appoint such officials as they deem necessary for the proper conduct of Auxiliaries within the Province.

(o) The Provincial Executive shall appoint from their number a representative on the Board of Directors of the League.

(p) An Auxiliary failing to function or conform to the provisions of this Constitution shall, after a proper investigation, be declared defunct and all properties, monies, records, certificates or charters in the possession of the Auxiliary before its termination shall pass into the common ownership of the Provincial Organization and shall be held or disposed of by the Provincial Executive of Women's Auxiliaries.

15. YOUNG PEOPLE'S BRANCHES

(a) Six or more of any Group, or Groups, of the League, or members of the League at large may form themselves into a Young People's

Branch of the Alberta Social Credit League by payment of an additional membership fee of 50c per member, which shall be remitted to the Provincial Secretary - Treasurer of the Young People's Branch.

(b) Any person to hold office in the Young People's Branch of the Alberta Social Credit League shall be a member of the Alberta Social Credit League. Members of any Branch under 18 years of age shall be known as Associate Members, paying the regular 50c fee, but not be members of the League.

(c) Memberships at large in the Young People's Branch may be had by the payment of a membership fee as described in Sections 15(a) and (b).

(d) Each Branch shall elect a President and one Vice-President at a properly convened Annual Meeting, of which adequate notice has been given to its members, and these officials shall hold office at the pleasure of the members of the Branch.

(e) The President and Vice-President shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer, or a Secretary and a Treasurer, and these officials shall constitute the Branch Executive.

(f) Every such Branch shall be entitled to send one representative to the Constituency Association.

(g) In any Constituency the Branch Presidents and Vice-Presidents, or an official delegate acting for either or both, shall constitute the Constituency Council of Young People's Branches, and shall meet when necessary to deal with matters affecting the activities of Branches within the Constituency.

(h) The said Council shall elect from their number a President and a Vice-President, who shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer or a Secretary and a Treasurer, and they shall hold office at the pleasure of the members of the Council.

(i) The Provincial Convention of the Young People's Branch shall be held in the same place and immediately prior to the Provincial Convention of the League.

(j) The delegates to the Provincial Convention of the Young People's Branch shall be as follows: (1) two delegates for the first six members of a Branch; (2) one delegate for each additional ten members; (3) two delegates from the Constituency Council.

(k) In addition to the ordinary business, the Annual Convention shall elect a President and two Vice-Presidents, who shall attend the Provincial Convention as delegates.

(l) In the election of the Vice-Presidents, the first Vice-President shall be elected from the other half of the Province than that represented by the President. The second Vice-President shall be elected from the same section as the President.

(m) The President and Vice-Presidents of the Provincial Convention of the Young People's Branch shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer, and these four shall constitute the Provincial Executive of the Young People's Branch of the Alberta Social Credit League.

(n) The Provincial Executive shall appoint from their number a representative on the Board of Directors of the League.

(o) A Branch or Constituency Council, failing to function, or conform to the provisions of this Constitution shall, after a proper investigation, be declared defunct, and all properties, monies, records, certificates, or charters in the possession of the Branch before its termination, shall pass into the common ownership of the Young People's Branch and shall be held or disposed of by the Constituency Council or the Executive of the Young People's Branch, as the case may be, on the direction of the President of the League.

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